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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q79955

Ichiro TANAKA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/785,084

Group Art Unit: 1755

Confirmation No.: 8542

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: February 25, 2004

For: A ZIRCONIA SINTERED BODY AND A METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0182141 A1 published December 5, 2002, to Uchida.
2. Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP-A 06-039303 published February 15, 1994, to Shinagawa Refract. Co., Ltd.
3. Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP-A 06-056525 published March 1, 1994, to Osaka Prefecture and Osaka Cement Co., Ltd.
4. Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP-A 2000-327416 published November 28, 2000, to Toray Ind., Inc.

TANAKA et al.

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/785,084

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than the U.S. patent, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


John T. Callahan
Registration No. 32,607

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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Date: September 21, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

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Application Number 10/785,084

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|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 10/785,084 |
| Confirmation Number | 8542 |
| Filing Date | February 25, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Ichiro TANAKA |
| Art Unit | 1755 |
| Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Attorney Docket Number | O79955 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP-A 06-039303 published February 15, 1994, to Shinagawa Refract. Co., Ltd. | |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.